



Ariane Burgess MSP
Convener
Local Government, Housing and Planning
Committee
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27th March 2023

Dear Ms Burgess,

Re: Inquiry into Community Planning

Thank you for your letter of 6 March, advising of the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee post-legislative scrutiny of Part 2 of the Community Empowerment Act 2015, which created requirements for community planning. Please see my response to your enquiries below:

1. How Tactran engages with the CPP and works in partnership with other members.

Tactran is a partner in all the Community Planning Partnership's for the four Local Authorities in our Region. The four Local Authorities and the senior groups that Tactran attend are listed below:

- Angus Council, Community Partnership Executive Committee, and the Community Partnership Management Board
- Dundee Council, Community Partnership Management Board
- Perth and Kinross Council, Community Planning Partnership Board, Community Partnership Senior Officer Group and Community Planning Partnership Executive Officer Group
- Stirling Community Planning Partnership: Senior Officer Group.

Transport is a factor in many of the Community Planning Partnership objectives therefore Tactran also engages in several sub-groups where our expertise is required. These include working groups like climate change, economic development and fair and just transition. Several Tactran Board Members are engaged with Community Planning Partnerships through their roles as Councillors for their respective Local Authorities.

2. Whether there are any challenges or barriers to that engagement being effective.

Tactran is a small organisation with limited staff resource. Supporting all four local authority partners at all partnership meetings is challenging.

As a small organisation with limited funds, (when compared to other partners), it is difficult for us to contribute, financially, as an equal partner. Currently, Tactran works with Local Authority Officers and other organisations within our regional and local groups to support Community Planning Partnership initiatives.

3. Your views on the whether the Act is meeting its objective of reducing inequalities, and the effectiveness of Local Outcome Improvement Plans and locality plans.

The Community Planning Partnership process is focussed on addressing inequalities and seems to be meeting the objectives of the Community Empowerment Act.

4. Whether the statutory partners as set out in Schedule 1 of the Act needs revisiting.

It appears there are a suitable variety of partners identified in Schedule 1. Therefore, I suggest there is no need to revisit the Schedule 1 in the Act. If a review does take place, I would highly recommend that Regional Transport Partnerships remain as Schedule 1 partner as transport is a key factor in tackling inequalities and improving outcomes for our communities.

5. Whether there is sufficient leadership at a local or national level to support community planning.

I believe the current leadership is sufficient to support community planning in the Tactran Region.

I hope the above is a helpful contribution to the inquiry. If you would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Speed
Partnership Director